

Children Order Statistical Tables 2007/08

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Northern Ireland

Theme:

Children's Social Care

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Child Protection

1. At 31 March 2008, there were 2,071 children on child protection registers in Northern Ireland, an increase of 15% (266) from 2007 (1,805)
2. Of the 2,071 children on child protection registers:
 - a. 52% were boys and 48% were girls;
 - b. 8% were aged under 1 year old, and 7% were aged 16 years or older;
 - c. Neglect was the most common category of abuse, with 49% assessed to be at risk of neglect,
 - d. 58% had been registered for less than one year, with 6% registered for 3 years or longer
3. There were 3,071 referrals during 2007/08, 42% from within social services
4. Of the 2,306 investigations in 2007/08, 83% were lead by social workers
5. There were 1,497 additions to registers (registrations), with 1,230 de-registrations during 2007/08
6. 82% of the 1,782 initial case conferences led to registration on child protection registers

Children in Need

1. During 2007/08, there were 28,088 referrals to children's social services; these referrals related to 21,109 children
2. By 31 March 2008, 66% of children referred to social services had been allocated for further action (service or assessment)

Additional Information

Additional information and information on Adult Social Care are available at:

http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/stats_research/stats-cib/stats-cib_pubs

Children Looked After

1. At 31 March 2008, there were 2,433 looked after children in Northern Ireland, an increase of 3% (77) from 2007 (2,356)
2. Of the 2,433 looked after children:
 - a. 52% were boys and 48% were girls
 - b. 2% were aged under 1 year old, and 21% were aged 16 years or older
 - c. 57% were in foster care, 26% were placed with family, 13% were in residential care and 5% were in other placement types
 - d. 45% were subject of a Care Order (Article 50 or 59)
 - e. 23% had been in care for less than one year, and 11% had been in care for 10 years or longer
3. During 2007/08, there were 989 admissions into care
4. There were 909 discharges from care during 2007/08
5. In 2007/08, there were 834 respite care placements

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Table 1.1: Child Protection Register by Age and Gender (31 March 2008)

HSC Trust	Age (years)										Total		
	Under 1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16 +				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast	27	31	76	87	107	95	82	54	24	20	316	287	603
Northern	9	12	36	48	73	55	35	43	6	14	159	172	331
South Eastern	22	17	70	54	88	65	38	36	10	17	228	189	417
Southern	11	10	40	37	63	45	41	48	5	14	160	154	314
Western	18	10	45	32	82	78	52	55	19	15	216	190	406
Northern Ireland	87	80	267	258	413	338	248	236	64	80	1,079	992	2,071

Source: Children Order Return CPR1

Table 1.2: Child Protection Register by Category of Abuse (31 March 2008)

HSC Trust	Category of Abuse								Total
	Neglect, Physical Abuse and Sexual Abuse	Neglect and Physical Abuse	Neglect and Sexual Abuse	Physical and Sexual Abuse	Neglect Only	Physical Abuse Only	Sexual Abuse Only	Emotional Abuse Only	
Belfast	10	56	14	11	227	138	64	83	603
Northern	0	30	10	12	113	89	39	38	331
South Eastern	13	68	6	13	103	114	50	50	417
Southern	8	26	6	5	98	68	57	46	314
Western	11	43	44	22	124	79	34	49	406
Northern Ireland	42	223	80	63	665	488	244	266	2,071

Source: Children Order Return CPR2

Table 1.3: Child Protection Referrals by Source of Referral (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Source of Referral											Total	
	Police	School / EWO ²	Voluntary Org.	GP	Social Services	Comm. Nursing	Relative	Neighbour / Friend	Hospital	Self	Anon		Other
Belfast	113	57	0	24	364	21	51	0	37	0	12	86	770
Northern	33	16	0	0	274	10	14	0	6	0	17	21	398
South Eastern	84	49	10	15	150	20	40	19	25	9	32	71	524
Southern	101	90	20	18	238	18	57	7	29	19	53	85	735
Western	68	94	0	0	256	22	54	0	6	15	51	68	644
Northern Ireland	399	306	37	64	1,282	91	216	32	103	45	165	331	3,071

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² EWO - Education Welfare Officer

Source: Children Order Return CPR3

Table 1.4: Child Protection Register by Legal Status (31 March 2008) ¹

HSC Trust	Legal Status								Total
	Emergency Protection Order (Article 63 & 64)	Accommodated (Article 21)	Interim Care Order (Article 57)	Care Order (Article 50 or 59)	Deemed Care Order (Paras 11 & 30 of Sch 8)	Interim Supervision Order (Article 57)	Other	None	
Belfast	0	63	36	22	0	0	0	477	603
Northern	0	36	17	0	0	0	0	278	331
South Eastern	0	69	34	27	0	0	0	285	417
Southern	0	16	30	6	0	0	27	233	314
Western	0	23	16	11	0	0	5	347	406
Northern Ireland	0	207	133	66	5	0	35	1,620	2,071

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return CPR4

Table 1.5: Child Protection Register by Duration on Register (31 March 2008)

HSC Trust	Duration						Total
	< 3 Months	3 Months < 6 Months	6 Months < 1 Year	1 Year < 2 Years	2 Years < 3 Years	3 + Years	
Belfast	80	110	157	130	79	47	603
Northern	69	71	85	82	16	8	331
South Eastern	62	58	95	142	39	21	417
Southern	70	60	83	79	22	0	314
Western	41	61	101	103	52	48	406
Northern Ireland	322	360	521	536	208	124	2,071

Source: Children Order Return CPR5

Table 1.6: Child Protection Investigations (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Child Protection Investigations			Total
	Joint Protocol	Social Work	Police	
Belfast	110	578	5	693
Northern	0	339	0	407
South Eastern	59	360	13	432
Southern	97	296	14	407
Western	0	332	0	367
Northern Ireland	362	1,905	39	2,306

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return CPR6

Table 1.7: Child Protection Registrations by Age (2007/08)

HSC Trust	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 11	12 - 15	16 +	Total
Belfast	89	101	131	79	7	407
Northern	36	75	107	71	10	299
South Eastern	53	72	99	41	5	270
Southern	36	65	104	69	7	281
Western	39	46	99	50	6	240
Northern Ireland	253	359	540	310	35	1,497

Source: Children Order Return CPR7

Table 1.8: Child Protections Registrations by Category of Abuse (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Category of Abuse								Total
	Neglect, Physical Abuse & Sexual Abuse	Neglect & Physical Abuse	Neglect & Sexual Abuse	Physical & Sexual Abuse	Neglect Only	Physical Abuse Only	Sexual Abuse Only	Emotional Abuse Only	
Belfast	0	45	8	0	146	115	37	47	407
Northern	0	29	12	11	93	84	28	42	299
South Eastern	0	34	0	6	72	80	40	32	270
Southern	8	28	0	0	76	68	42	51	281
Western	0	24	29	0	69	53	17	35	240
Northern Ireland	19	160	52	39	456	400	164	207	1,497

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return CPR8

Table 1.9 Child Protection Re-Registrations (2007/08)

HSC Trust	Re-Registrations
Belfast	69
Northern	57
South Eastern	41
Southern	41
Western	33
Northern Ireland	241

Source: Children Order Return CPR9

Table 1.10: Child Protection De-Registrations by Duration on Register (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Duration on Register								Total
	< 3 Months	3 Months < 6 Months	6 Months < 1 Year	1 Year < 2 Years	2 Years < 3 Years	3 Years < 5 Years	5 Years < 10 Years	10 + Years	
Belfast	7	33	93	80	47	24	7	0	291
Northern	27	44	80	66	18	0	0	0	244
South Eastern	25	18	86	99	38	14	0	0	280
Southern	14	31	97	36	21	0	0	0	202
Western	17	26	47	63	32	15	13	0	213
Northern Ireland	90	152	403	344	156	63	22	0	1,230

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return CPR10

Table 1.11: Child Protection Initial Case Conferences by Outcome (2007/08)

HSC Trust	Outcome of Initial Case Conference		Total
	Registered	Not Registered	
Belfast	404	119	523
Northern	297	79	376
South Eastern	269	33	302
Southern	255	23	278
Western	238	65	303
Northern Ireland	1,463	319	1,782

Source: Children Order Return CPR11

Section 2: Children in Need

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Table 2.1: Referrals, Episodes and Children Referred (2007/08)

HSC Trust	Referrals	Episodes	Children Referred
Belfast	6,959	4,895	4,865
Northern	5,507	4,269	4,356
South Eastern	5,515	4,074	4,112
Southern	5,372	4,209	4,365
Western	4,735	3,104	3,411
Northern Ireland	28,088	20,551	21,109

Source: Children Order Return N1

Table 2.2: Children Referred by Gender and Age (31 March 2008)

HSC Trust	Age (years)								Total		
	0 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16 +				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast	816	671	848	707	573	596	323	308	2,560	2,282	4,842
Northern	560	523	882	630	576	561	336	265	2,354	1,979	4,333
South Eastern	516	498	702	593	607	553	367	240	2,192	1,884	4,076
Southern	585	535	812	710	607	625	219	250	2,223	2,120	4,343
Western	451	445	702	541	447	445	173	179	1,773	1,610	3,383
Northern Ireland	2,928	2,672	3,946	3,181	2,810	2,780	1,418	1,242	11,102	9,875	20,977

Source: Children Order Return N2

Table 2.3: Children Referred by Current Status (31 March 2008) ¹

	Status					Total
	Inappropriate Referral	No further action required - work completed / dealt with at source	No further action taken - unmet need	Allocation for further action - service / assessment	Other	
HSC Trust						
Belfast	0	1,682	0	2,815	341	4,842
Northern	0	1,368	0	2,493	408	4,333
South Eastern	16	1,488	6	2,181	385	4,076
Southern	140	617	48	3,225	313	4,343
Western	0	108	0	3,186	82	3,383
Northern Ireland	227	5,263	58	13,900	1,529	20,977

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return N2

Table 2.4: Children Referred with a Disability (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Disability								Total		
	Visual Disability		Hearing Disability		Physical Disability		Learning Disability				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast	14	9	15	11	46	28	42	20	117	68	185
Northern	7	12	4	8	31	25	76	34	118	79	197
South Eastern	8	13	13	8	22	19	52	21	95	61	156
Southern	14	6	19	9	16	8	12	9	61	32	93
Western	10	13	11	9	99	48	73	53	193	123	316
Northern Ireland	53	53	62	45	214	128	255	137	584	363	947

¹ Data for children with a Mental Health Problem has been excluded, to avoid personal disclosure.

Source: Children Order Return N3

Table 2.5: Episodes by Presenting Category and Gender (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Presenting Category						Total		
	Awaiting Assessment		Child Subject to Child Protection Investigation		Other				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast	2,307	2,069	0	0	0	0	2,496	2,281	4,777
Northern	2,165	1,790	84	85	0	0	2,249	1,875	4,124
South Eastern	1,965	1,660	142	156	0	0	2,107	1,816	3,923
Southern	1,861	1,747	223	232	12	4	2,096	1,983	4,079
Western	1,395	1,234	0	0	0	0	1,554	1,430	2,984
Northern Ireland	9,693	8,500	796	880	13	5	10,502	9,385	19,887

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return N4

Table 2.6: Episodes by Presenting Category, Religion (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Religion							Total
	Roman Catholic	Presbyterian	Church of Ireland	Methodist	Other	None	Refused / Unknown	
Belfast	362	135	0	0	1,420	305	2,468	4,777
Northern	102	53	28	5	546	92	3,298	4,124
South Eastern	196	30	0	0	33	565	3,066	3,923
Southern	847	34	197	6	52	173	2,770	4,079
Western	1,194	73	258	7	29	32	1,391	2,984
Northern Ireland	2,701	325	600	21	2,080	1,167	12,993	19,887

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return N5a

Table 2.7: Episodes by Presenting Category, Ethnic Group (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Ethnic Group							Total
	White	Chinese	Traveller	Indian Sub-Continent	Black	Other	Refused / Unknown	
Belfast	2,504	16	17	10	25	106	2,099	4,777
Northern	985	0	0	0	0	15	3,120	4,124
South Eastern	1,421	0	0	0	0	8	2,489	3,923
Southern	2,002	0	31	5	0	137	1,901	4,079
Western	1,941	0	18	0	6	14	1,001	2,984
Northern Ireland	8,853	26	67	18	33	280	10,610	19,887

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return N5b

Table 2.8: Episodes by Category After Initial Assessment (2007/08)¹

HSC Trust	Category after Initial Assessment				Total
	Child Protection Investigation	Child with a Disability who may require Social Services	A Child whose carers require support and assistance in order that they might provide a reasonable standard of care	Other	
Belfast	436	46	1,640	52	2,174
Northern	168	75	1,188	94	1,525
South Eastern	320	75	1,065	23	1,483
Southern	446	71	2,065	36	2,618
Western	367	129	2,093	6	2,595
Northern Ireland	1,737	396	8,051	211	10,395

¹ Children awaiting assessment, assessed as not in need, or whose need was unmet have been excluded from this table.

Source: Children Order Return N6

Table 2.9: Episodes by Category After Initial Assessment, Religion (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Religion							Total
	Roman Catholic	Presbyterian	Church of Ireland	Methodist	Other	None	Refused / Unknown	
Belfast	324	120	0	0	1,395	298	2,113	4,333
Northern	75	46	0	0	492	64	2,708	3,412
South Eastern	178	27	0	0	29	509	2,647	3,416
Southern	717	25	156	5	49	153	2,356	3,461
Western	1,134	73	238	7	23	27	1,274	2,776
Northern Ireland	2,428	291	524	18	1,988	1,051	11,098	17,398

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return N7a

Table 2.10: Episodes by Category After Initial Assessment, Ethnic Group and Gender (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Ethnic Group														Total		
	White		Chinese		Traveller		Indian Sub-Continent		Black		Other		Refused / Unknown				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast	1,211	1,165	9	5	7	6	5	5	15	10	56	47	950	842	2,253	2,080	4,333
Northern	439	410	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	1,429	1,120	1,875	1,537	3,412
South Eastern	638	575	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	1,167	1,026	1,812	1,604	3,416
Southern	836	827	0	0	12	13	0	0	0	0	61	55	867	784	1,777	1,684	3,461
Western	914	911	0	0	10	7	0	0	0	5	7	6	496	415	1,429	1,347	2,776
Northern Ireland	4,038	3,888	12	10	29	27	5	11	16	15	137	114	4,909	4,187	9,146	8,252	17,398

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

Source: Children Order Return N7b

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Table 3.1: Children Looked After by Age and Gender (31 March 2008) ¹

HSC Trust	Age (years)										Total		
	Under 1		1 - 4		5 - 11		12 - 15		16 +				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	All
Belfast ²	6	8	43	45	103	80	99	77	73	58	324	268	592
Northern	4	6	38	36	92	76	80	76	49	49	263	243	506
South Eastern	8	4	48	36	87	79	80	87	64	60	287	266	553
Southern ³	0	0	0	0	64	61	55	42	30	32	180	176	356
Western	0	0	0	0	73	67	66	71	44	46	211	215	426
Northern Ireland	24	25	182	182	419	363	380	353	260	245	1,265	1,168	2,433

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² Belfast HSC Trust did not provide the clarification requested regarding respite cases, prior to publication.

³ Figures for the Newry & Mourne locality of the Southern HSC Trust exclude children looked after for respite.

Source: Children Order Return LA1

Table 3.2: Children Looked After by Legal Status (31 March 2008) ¹

HSC Trust	Legal Status					Total
	Accommodated Article 21	Interim Care Order (Article 57)	Care Order (Article 50 or 59)	Deemed Care Order (Paras 11 & 30 of Sch 8)	Other	
Belfast ²	189	59	298	42	4	592
Northern	157	59	252	0	0	506
South Eastern	288	47	195	0	0	553
Southern ³	142	63	145	0	0	356
Western	126	48	202	44	6	426
Northern Ireland	902	276	1,092	146	17	2,433

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² Belfast HSC Trust did not provide the clarification requested regarding respite cases, prior to publication.

³ Figures for the Newry & Mourne locality of the Southern HSC Trust exclude children looked after for respite.

Source: Children Order Return LA1

Table 3.3: Children Looked After by Placement Type (31 March 2008)

HSC Trust	Placement Type				Total
	Residential Care	Foster Care	Placed With Family	Other ¹	
Belfast ²	81	339	153	19	592
Northern	62	284	120	40	506
South Eastern	70	250	216	17	553
Southern ³	49	219	68	20	356
Western	57	284	65	20	426
Northern Ireland	319	1,376	622	116	2,433

¹ Other Accommodation includes: independent living, supported accommodation, secure accommodation, hospital, hostels, aftercare facilities, Simon Community, respite care facilities, bed & breakfast accommodation, bed-sits, dependent living etc.

² Belfast HSC Trust did not provide the clarification requested regarding respite cases, prior to publication.

³ Figures for the Newry & Mourne locality of the Southern HSC Trust exclude children looked after for respite.

Source: Children Order Return LA2

Table 3.4: Children Looked After by Duration in Care and Gender (31 March 2008) ¹

HSC Trust	Duration in Care												Total		
	< 3 Months		3 Months < 1 Year		1 Year < 3 Years		3 Years < 5 Years		5 Years < 10 Years		10 + Years				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast ²	8	10	42	32	90	84	53	38	88	67	43	37	324	268	592
Northern	9	15	49	45	58	52	53	35	73	60	21	36	263	243	506
South Eastern	14	25	69	59	76	61	37	52	61	47	30	22	287	266	553
Southern ³	0	0	36	44	36	44	55	26	37	43	0	0	180	176	356
Western	0	0	29	24	47	39	40	46	60	64	0	0	211	215	426
Northern Ireland	52	69	225	204	307	280	238	197	319	281	124	137	1,265	1,168	2,433

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² Belfast HSC Trust did not provide the clarification requested regarding respite cases, prior to publication.

³ Figures for the Newry & Mourne locality of the Southern HSC Trust exclude children looked after for respite.

Source: Children Order Return LA3

Table 3.5: Children Accommodated for Respite Care by Placement and Gender (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Placement								Total		
	Residential Care		Foster Care		Placed with Family		Other ²				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast	0	0	78	68	11	0	0	0	89	78	167
Northern	0	0	69	74	0	0	0	0	73	84	157
South Eastern	51	42	81	59	0	10	0	0	136	111	247
Southern	0	0	60	62	0	0	19	9	87	76	163
Western	0	0	54	43	0	0	0	0	56	44	100
Northern Ireland	53	42	342	306	26	33	20	12	441	393	834

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² Other Accommodation may include: independent living, supported accommodation, secure accommodation, hospital, hostels, aftercare facilities, Simon Community, respite care facilities, bed & breakfast accommodation, bed-sits, dependent living etc.

Source: Children Order Return LA5

Table 3.6: Admissions by Legal Status and Gender (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Legal Status								Total		
	Emergency Protection Order (Article 63 & 64)		Accommodated Under Article 21		Interim Care Order (Article 57)		Other ²				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast ³	0	0	110	114	11	0	0	0	127	120	247
Northern ⁴	0	0	81	89	16	16	0	0	100	107	207
South Eastern ⁵	0	0	111	101	6	6	0	0	122	115	237
Southern ⁶	0	10	71	57	11	20	0	0	88	88	176
Western	0	0	47	54	7	0	0	0	58	64	122
Northern Ireland	14	18	420	415	51	49	10	12	495	494	989

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² Category Other includes Care Order (Article 50 or 59) to avoid personal disclosure.

³ Belfast HSC Trust did not provide the clarification requested regarding respite cases, prior to publication.

⁴ Information for the Northern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

⁵ Information for the South Eastern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

⁶ Information for the Armagh & Dungannon and Craigavon & Banbridge localities of the Southern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

Source: Children Order Return LA6

Table 3.7: Admissions by Placement Type and Gender (2007/08) ^{1, 2}

HSC Trust	Placement Type								Total		
	Residential Care		Foster Care		Placed With Family		Other ¹				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast ³	11	0	88	96	24	20	4	0	127	120	247
Northern ⁴	0	0	72	73	14	26	0	0	100	107	207
South Eastern ⁵	37	31	40	41	37	39	8	4	122	115	237
Southern ⁶	5	0	55	47	21	34	7	0	88	88	176
Western	0	0	41	46	7	9	0	0	58	64	122
Northern Ireland	74	53	296	303	103	128	22	10	495	494	989

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² Other Accommodation may include: independent living, supported accommodation, secure accommodation, hospital, hostels, aftercare facilities, Simon Community, respite care facilities, bed & breakfast accommodation, bed-sits, dependent living etc.

³ Belfast HSC Trust did not provide the clarification requested regarding respite cases, prior to publication.

⁴ Information for the Northern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

⁵ Information for the South Eastern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

⁶ Information for the Armagh & Dungannon and Craigavon & Banbridge localities of the Southern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

Source: Children Order Return LA7

Table 3.8: Discharges by Duration in Care and Gender (2007/08) ¹

HSC Trust	Duration in Care												Total		
	< 3 Months		3 Months < 1 Year		1 Year < 3 Years		3 Years < 5 Years		5 Years < 10 Years		10 + Years				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast ²	74	78	9	4	11	7	11	10	6	13	15	12	126	124	250
Northern ³	45	40	9	13	12	13	13	11	8	9	13	13	100	99	199
South Eastern ⁴	31	29	22	17	15	18	10	5	8	6	7	4	93	79	172
Southern ⁵	24	23	17	18	17	15	0	10	0	7	7	6	82	79	161
Western	21	32	9	4	12	8	0	5	0	9	11	4	64	63	127
Northern Ireland	195	202	66	56	67	61	45	41	39	44	53	40	465	444	909

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² Belfast HSC Trust did not provide the clarification requested regarding respite cases, prior to publication.

³ Information for the Northern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

⁴ Information for the South Eastern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

⁵ Information for the Armagh & Dungannon and Craigavon & Banbridge localities of the Southern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

Source: Children Order Return LA8

Table 3.9: Discharges by Age (16+) 2007/08 ¹

HSC Trust	Age (years)			Total
	16	17	18	
Belfast ²	13	26	66	105
Northern ³	0	0	38	47
South Eastern ⁴	16	11	35	62
Southern ⁵	10	7	35	52
Western	0	0	30	40
Northern Ireland	51	51	204	306

¹ "0" represents either a zero or a cell count less than 4 in order to avoid personal disclosure. In addition, where a zeroed cell can be deduced from the totals, the next smallest cells will also be zeroed. For this reason some row or column totals may not tally.

² Belfast HSC Trust did not provide the clarification requested regarding respite cases, prior to publication.

³ Information for the Northern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

⁴ Information for the South Eastern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

⁵ Information for the Armagh & Dungannon and Craigavon & Banbridge localities of the Southern HSC Trust includes children looked after for respite.

Source: Children Order Return LA9

Table 3.10: Young Persons (16-21) that received Services by Service Type and Gender (2007/08)

HSC Trust	Service Type						Total		
	Financial Assistance		Ongoing Social Work		Other Agency Involvement				
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Total
Belfast	110	110	135	117	125	130	370	357	727
Northern	58	62	81	78	0	0	139	140	279
South Eastern	59	47	104	88	0	0	163	135	298
Southern	17	19	61	64	29	26	107	109	216
Western	34	38	68	60	0	0	102	98	200
Northern Ireland	278	276	449	407	154	156	881	839	1,720

¹ Figures refer to the number of services provided in each category.

Source: Children Order Return LA11

Appendices

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Appendix 1: HSC Trusts Providing in Northern Ireland

HSC Trust	Operational From
Belfast	1 April 2007
Northern	1 April 2007
South Eastern	1 April 2007
Southern	1 April 2007
Western	1 April 2007

Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995

The Children (Northern Ireland) Order was made on 15 March 1995. The Order deals with the care, upbringing and protection of children, including disabled children. It reforms, consolidates and harmonises most of the public and private law relating to children in a single coherent statutory framework along the lines of the Children Act 1989 in England and Wales.

The information in this report helps in monitoring the operation of the Children Order.

Child

Under the Children (Northern Ireland) Order a child is defined as a person under the age of 18.

Children on the Child Protection Register

Child Protection Register

A register must be maintained by each Trust listing every child in the Trust area who has been abused or who is considered to be at risk of abuse, and who is currently the subject of a child protection plan.

Registration

Placement of a child on to the Child Protection Register. Where a child has moved on or off the Register several times during the year each registration is recorded.

Deregistration

Removal of a child from the Child Protection Register. Where a child has moved on or off the Register several times during the year each deregistration is recorded.

Re-registration

Placement on to the Child Protection Register of a child who has already been on the register, irrespective of the date of their first registration on the Register.

Child Protection Referrals

Child protection referrals are those referrals for which the initial assessment indicates that there may be child protection issues.

The threshold for action should be the allegation or suspicion of child abuse. However the balance needs to be struck between taking action designed to protect the child from abuse while at the same time avoiding unnecessary intervention. Except in emergency situations or urgent cases when immediate protective action is required, referrals will require preliminary discussion with other professionals from the child protection agencies and with the referrer. In some cases it will be necessary to seek specialist opinion.

In some cases action other than a formal investigation will be decided upon following the consultation process. This might include the provision of support for the family. Such a decision should be discussed and agreed with a social worker in consultation with the team leader or supervisor; and recorded and communicated to senior management.

The definition is not taken to mean all referrals, as some may require action such as advice or family support rather than child protection procedures.

Investigation

The purpose of an investigation is to establish whether a Trust should make an application for a court order or exercise any of its other powers, for example the provision of services under Part IV of the Children Order.

Category of Abuse for Registration

The category of abuse under which a child is registered will have been decided upon at the child protection conference, when agreement was reached that registration was necessary. If a child suffers multiple abuse, this should be recorded against the main category of abuse. The abuse may be potential, suspected or confirmed, although the terms 'actual' or 'likely' occur. Potential and suspected equate with 'likely' and confirmed with 'actual'. The categories are:

1. Neglect, Physical Abuse and Sexual Abuse
2. Main category - neglect
3. Main category - physical abuse
4. Main category - sexual abuse
5. Neglect and Physical Abuse
6. Main category - neglect
7. Main category - physical abuse
8. Neglect and Sexual Abuse
9. Main category - neglect
10. Main category - sexual abuse
11. Physical and Sexual Abuse
12. Main category - physical abuse
13. Main category - sexual abuse
14. Neglect (only)
15. Physical Abuse (only)
16. Sexual Abuse (only)
17. Emotional Abuse (only)

Neglect

The actual or likely persistent or severe neglect of a child, or the failure to protect a child from exposure to any kind of danger, including cold or starvation, or persistent failure to carry out important aspects of care, resulting in significant impairment of the child's health or development, including non-organic failure to thrive.

Physical Abuse

Actual or likely deliberate physical injury to a child, or wilful or neglectful failure to prevent physical injury or suffering to a child including deliberate poisoning, suffocation or Munchausen syndrome by proxy.

Sexual Abuse

Actual or likely sexual exploitation of a child or adolescent. The child may be dependent and/or developmentally immature.

Emotional Abuse

Actual or likely persistent or severe emotional ill-treatment or rejection resulting in severe adverse effects on the emotional, physical and/or behavioural development of a child. All abuse involves some emotional ill-treatment. This category should be used where it is the main or only form of abuse.

Legal Status

The legal framework for compulsory intervention in the care and upbringing of children. If more than one legal status is indicated or in force for the child at 31 March, the latest one only is recorded.

Children in Need

Referral

A referral of a child to Social Services, regardless of source of referral. A child may be referred several times over the course of a year.

Episode of Care

An episode of involvement of a child with Social Services. There may be several episodes of involvement over a year or, alternatively, an episode may span more than one year. Where an episode of involvement commences in one year and closes in another, it is counted in the year in which the case opened.

Current Status of Children Referred

The status at 31 March of children referred during the year.

Inappropriate Referral

An inappropriate childcare referral to Social Services, referred back to referral source.

No further action required

Not required to allocate for full assessment of need due to the query being dealt with at referral stage, e.g. advice on social security, health and social services etc.

No further action taken

Unable to meet needs of the client referred, perhaps due to lack of skilled resources to deal with the case. Unmet need may be recorded. Referred back to referral source with advice on outcome of initial assessment of referral.

Allocation for service/assessment

Upon initial assessment of referral, allocated to social services professional/team to carry out full assessment of need for client or for provision of a service.

Other

Cases which are not allocated to one of the above categories, including cases awaiting a decision (pending cases).

Initial Assessment

An assessment made soon after referral to determine the type of need, if any, and how best this need may be met.

Children in Need Categories

A child is considered to be in need if he/she falls into at least one of the following Children in Need categories.

Child subject to Child Protection investigation

Children will not normally be subject to a child protection investigation at the initial referral. However, this category should be recorded when the referral indicates child protection investigation is required and if/when this is confirmed by the initial assessment. Children will cease to be “in need” under this definition when the child protection investigation is complete. They may, however, continue to be “children in need” under any other of the definitional headings.

Child with a disability who may require social work service

Children with a disability are defined as those children who meet the definition agreed by the working group on children with a disability. To be accepted as a child in need the child must meet the disability definition and be likely to require social care services. Some children with disability will have their needs met by medical, educational, family and social networks not requiring social care services involvement. The need for social care services will be established only after a full assessment.

Child for whom no one is exercising parental responsibility

This definition applies to children abandoned, or “out of home” on what initially appears to be a long-term basis i.e. there is no obvious individual or family who can immediately provide “parental” responsibility. After assessment the family may be able to offer appropriate care and the child would no longer be in need.

Child for whom the carer is temporarily unable to offer care for whatever reason

This definition applies to children who are normally well cared for by their carer(s) but the carer(s) is/are temporarily unable to exercise that care through illness, or unavoidable absence. In these cases there is no question over the carers normally discharging their responsibility.

A child whose carers require support and assistance in order that they might provide a reasonable standard of care

Many referrals illustrate a deficit in care but not sufficient to expose the child to risk of significant harm. In these circumstances the child's needs for improved parenting can be achieved by offering the child and family support, for example, day care provision for a child under five whose carer is suffering mental health problems.

A child who is likely to experience significant emotional, physical or development impairment as a result of family breakdown without the provision of social care services

The level of breakdown of families is high but can be achieved in amicable separations without significant emotional, physical or development impairment to the child. If this is so the child is not in need. This category should only be used where:

- impairment can be predicted and
- is causally linked with the family breakdown and
- can be shown to be reduced by social care services

A child whose well-being is significantly prejudiced as a result of their behavioural, emotional, psychiatric or psychological disturbance, and may require social care services

This definition involves children whose well-being is damaged by their behavioural, emotional, psychiatric and psychological disturbance and could include drug and alcohol use, neurotic and psychotic conditions as well as emotional and behavioural problems such as "challenging behaviour" or "self harm". However, these conditions are qualified by having to be of such severity as to "significantly prejudice the well-being of the child" thus recreational use of alcohol by older adolescents may be excluded. The need for social care services will have to be established by an assessment.

A child for whom their offending and its consequences are a significant feature of their life

Not all offenders will be "children in need" for the purposes of this definition. The nature of their offending (e.g. frequency, severity) and its consequences (e.g. response of the criminal justice system, impact upon the victim or community) should be a significant feature of their life.

A child whose welfare is, or is likely to be, significantly prejudiced as a result of homelessness

Families experiencing "homelessness" are the responsibility of the Housing Executive; however, a young person may be homeless and their welfare at risk. Such children will be in need.

A child ceasing to be looked after by a Trust

A child requiring Social Services support due to ceasing to be looked after by the Trust.

A child with caring duties which are significantly impairing or distorting their normal health, social or intellectual development

This category requires an assessment be made as to whether performing the duty “impairs or distorts the child’s normal development”. Thus the burden of daily care may involve activities appropriate to the age of the child but distort the child’s opportunity for normal age related education and leisure.

Request for financial assistance for a specific child in need

The request for financial assistance is relevant where such assistance assists, safeguards or promotes the well-being of a specific child who by definition without such assistance would be in need, e.g. financial assistance to a day care placement.

Request for financial assistance for children in a family

In many instances the financial assistance is to a family rather than a specific child, e.g. emergency payment to ensure food or warmth. In such circumstances the family should be counted as one referral, but a note made of how many children are in the family and receiving assistance, since all such children will be deemed as in need.

Initial Assessment

An assessment made soon after referral to determine the type of need, if any, and how best this need may be met.

Religion

Roman Catholic

Refers to all of the Roman Catholic faith.

Presbyterian

Refers to all stating their denomination to be Presbyterian. Include here also Church of Scotland but exclude all other groupings with ‘Presbyterian’ in their title, e.g. Free Presbyterian, Non-subscribing Presbyterian, etc. These groups are recorded under ‘Other denominations’.

Church of Ireland

Refers to all stating their denomination to be Church of Ireland.

Methodist

Refers to all stating their denomination to be Methodist.

Other Denominations

Refers to all other Christian and non-Christian denominations and faiths.

None

Refers to those with no religious persuasion.

Refused/Unknown

Refers to those who refuse to give details of their religious affiliation or whose religious affiliation cannot be established.

Ethnic Group**White**

Refers to all white or olive skinned people from Europe, North Africa, Middle East, the Americas and Australasia.

Chinese

Refers to all those belonging to the Chinese ethnic group, originating from mainland China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and Malaysia.

Traveller

Refers to persons sometimes known as gypsies or itinerants but excluding New Age Travellers. The term applies to those who travel from place to place, are temporarily based on a traveller site or who are settled in permanent accommodation on a traveller site.

Indian

Refers to those from the Indian sub-continent, i.e. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Black

Refers to Black Africans, Afro-Caribbeans, and African Americans.

Others

Refers to those other ethnic groups. Included here are those from Malaysia (other than Chinese), Vietnam, Japan, etc.

Refused/Unknown

Refers to those who refuse to give details of their ethnic group or whose ethnic group cannot be established.

Children Looked After**Looked After**

A child is looked after by an Authority if he or she is in their care or if he or she is provided with accommodation for a continuous period of more than 24 hours by the authority in the exercise of its Social Services function.

Residential Care

Residential care refers to care which takes place in statutory, voluntary or private children's homes.

Foster Care

Foster care includes children fostered either with relatives or with persons who are not related to the child.

Placed with family

This refers to children for whom a Care Order exists and who are placed with their parents, a person who is not a parent but who has parental responsibility for the child or where a child is in care and there was a Residence Order in force with respect to him/her immediately before the Care Order was made, a person in whose favour the Residence Order was made.

Respite Care

This term refers to either a series of short-term pre-planned, or ad hoc placements, where a child moves temporarily from his/her carer (i.e. foster care, residential care, family etc) in order to allow the child and/or the carer a period of respite. The move could, in ad-hoc situations, involve a change of placement (e.g. foster care to residential care) or the child could remain within the same placement type (e.g. foster care to foster care). Children could also move from a family placement to another placement type for respite care.

Where respite care is pre-planned, within the same placement (note: placement rather than placement type **must** remain constant), no single period of respite should be for a duration of more than four weeks and the total duration of the periods of respite should not exceed 90 days in any one year (to comply with Regulation 11 of the Review of Children's Cases Regulations (NI) 1996).

As a general rule of thumb, if a social worker regards the short-term placement of a child as being "for respite", either to benefit the child or the carer(s), then this should be recorded on the appropriate return.

Placement is recorded as first placement during the financial year.

Independent living

Refers to any young person being looked after by an authority, who moves from his/her placement to live independently within the community before he/she is 18 years of age. Do not count changes of placement or change of legal status within care as a re-admission, or children being looked after for respite care.

Appendix 2: Explanatory Notes

Source: The data contained in this publication have been compiled from the annual Children Order statistical returns.

Data Availability/Format: Data can be supplied in spreadsheet format (Microsoft Excel) in order to aid secondary analysis. The appropriate contact point for more detailed analyses or to answer queries in relation to the data is CIB@dhspsni.gov.uk (Tel 028 90522960).

Data Quality: Children Order statistical returns are quality assured by Health and Social Care Trusts before being returned to Community Information Branch

Confidentiality: Small numbers have been suppressed to preserve confidentiality. Normally, this is a number less than 5, but on occasion it may be higher

Readership Survey

1 What do you use the Children Order Statistical Tables for? (Please tick all that apply)

Briefing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Policy Formulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Service Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Information	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do Not Use	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 Were the Children Order Statistical Tables of any value to you?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

If 'No', please indicate why

.....

3 Please indicate how useful you found each section of the Children Order Statistical Tables: (Please tick one of the following)

	Very Useful	Useful	Little Use	No Use	Do Not Use
Children on Child Protection Register	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children in Need	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children Looked After	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's Homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Appendices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4 What did you find most useful?

.....

5 What did you find least useful?

.....

6 Would you like to see other subject areas covered in the Children Order Statistical Tables?

No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

.....

.....

7 How would you judge the level of detail contained in the Children Order Statistical Tables?

Too Much	<input type="checkbox"/>
About Right	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not Enough	<input type="checkbox"/>

8 Would you like to see any improvements in the Children Order Statistical Tables?

No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

.....
.....

9 How satisfied are you with these tables?

Very Satisfied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Satisfied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dissatisfied	<input type="checkbox"/>
Very Dissatisfied	<input type="checkbox"/>

If 'Dissatisfied' or 'Very Dissatisfied', please indicate why
.....

10 Any further comments on these tables?

.....
.....
.....
.....

11 To help us analyse the responses to this survey, please indicate:

a. Where you work:

DHSSPS	<input type="checkbox"/>
HSS Board	<input type="checkbox"/>
HSC Trust	<input type="checkbox"/>
Voluntary Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Department	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research / Academic	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

.....

b. Your specific area(s) of interest:

e.g. finance, service planning, elderly, family & childcare, learning disability etc

.....
.....
.....

All completed readership surveys should be returned to: Community Information Branch, DHSSPS, Annexe 2, Castle Buildings, Stormont Estate, Belfast, BT4 3SQ

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey